

Application Serial No. 10/588,885
Reply to office action of March 27, 2008

PATENT
Docket: CU-4982

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 are pending before this amendment. By the present amendment, claims #-# are canceled without prejudice; claims #-# are amended; and new claims #-# are added. No new matter has been added.

In the office action (page 2), the specification stands objected to by the examiner for not including a cross reference to priority application(s) on the first sentence of the specification or in the ADS.

In response, the specification has been appropriately amended to include the cross reference to priority, and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

In the office action (page 2), claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by European Patent No. 1,109,368 (Christie). The "et al." suffix, if any, is omitted in a reference name.

The applicants respectfully disagree.

In the office action, the examiner cites Christie to allege that each of the following limitations of claim 1 is disclosed by Christie as follows:

Claim 1 Limitations	Examiner's Citation to Christie
—a call controller instructing a calling gateway to detect a preset key combination in a session—	Christie col. 9, lines 19-38

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--when having detected the calling party dialing the key combination, the calling gateway reporting a first event message to the call controller--	Christie col. 9, lines 35-42
--the call controller responding to the first event message, releasing the current call--	Christie col. 11, lines 17-22
--sending an indication that the called party has hung up to a Service Control Point(SCP)--	The examiner alleges that this step is "inherent" on grounds that it is necessary to tear down the connection when the called party hung up.
--prompting and waiting for the calling party to initiate a new call via the calling gateway--	Christie col. 11, lines 14-23

In particular, the examiner errs in the allegation that the claimed feature of -- sending an indication that the called party has hung up to a Service Control Point (SCP)-- is an inherent step. The application respectfully submit that the examiner's comment in the office action near the bottom of page 2 that "it is necessary to tear own the connection when the called party hung up" could only stem from incorrect comprehension of the claimed feature of --sending an indication that the called party has hung up to a Service Control Point (SCP)--.

In claim 1, the call controller sends the indication that the called party has hung up to the SCP due to the receipt of the first event message triggered by pressing the key combination, instead of that the called party has really hung up. That is, sending the indication that the called party has hung up to the SCP in claim 1 is not associated with the "really hanging up of the called party." No matter whether the called party has really hung up, the call controller releases the current call when receiving the first event message and sends the indication that the called party has hung up to the SCP. That is

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to say, with the technical scheme of claim 1 of the present invention, a call can be reinitiated when detecting the pressing of the key combination, which can achieve the same effect as that of the really hanging up of the called party.

In contradistinction, Christie **only** discloses that the specific event, namely the pressing of the pound (#) key, may be associated with re-origination services in which the calling party does not hang up the phone in order to place another call after completing a previous call (see Christie col. 9, lines 8-13), but provides no disclosure at all as to what operations are implemented by MGC 2 (Media Gateway Controller) to waiting for a new call initiated by the calling party.

Furthermore, according to Christie, another call is reinitiated when detecting a specific event, i.e. pressing the pound (#) key and completing a previous call in Christie. The technical scheme of claim 1 of the present invention is different from that of Christie in that a call is reinitiated when detecting the pressing of the preset key combination. Compared to Christie, by using the key combination to indicate an event that a call shall be reinitiated, errors in reinitiating a new call by pressing one key (e.g. the pound (#) key) wrongly can be reduced. In addition, the pound (#) key is a common functional key, and is limited in reinitiating a new call in Christie. Other functions that need to be realized with the pound (#) key can not be realized in this situation in the card number service. In claim 1 of the present invention, the key combination can be configured as desired by users, and one key (e.g. the pound (#) key) can not only be used in a key combination to realize reinitiating a new call but also be used individually to realize other functions.

At least for these and other reasons, Christie does not teach or disclose all of the

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limitations recited in claim 1:

- a call controller instructing a calling gateway to detect a preset key combination in a session;
- when having detected the calling party dialing the key combination, the calling gateway reporting a first event message to the call controller;
- the call controller responding to the first event message, releasing the current call, sending an indication that the called party has hung up to a Service Control Point(SCP), prompting and waiting for the calling party to initiate a new call via the calling gateway.—

An indication of allowable subject matter in claim 1 is respectfully requested..

As to the dependent claims 2-12, these claims are allowable at least since they depend from claim 1, which is now considered to be in condition for allowance for the reasons above.

For the reasons set forth above, the applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-12 pending in this application are in condition for allowance over the cited reference. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and earnestly solicit an indication of allowable subject matter.

Should the examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, the examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to expeditiously resolve such concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

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